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AF Says Cooke Admitted Spy Activity

Second Lt. Christopher M. Cooke, the Titan II missile crew member being court-martialed for unauthorized contacts with the Soviet Embassy in Washington, admitted May 9 that he had been "photographing, copying and giving to the Soviets secret information about the nation's nuclear arsenal, the Air Force charged. Before that date, the Air Force said in court papers filed in Washington, Cooke, 25, of Richmond, Va., had claimed to have visited the embassy only to collect information for a research paper and in hopes of landing a job with the CIA. In a 17-page statement attached to the papers, Cooke described how he used the name Mark Johnson in visits to the embassy and even called his father from there when he had car trouble. Cooke is attempting to block the court-martial on grounds he had been promised immunity in return for his cooperation.